

**IMPLANT DEPLOYMENT APPARATUS**

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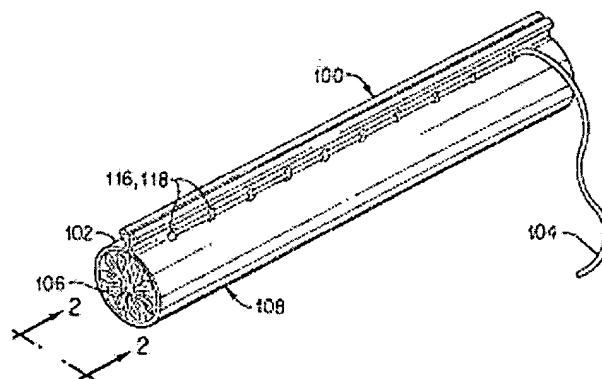
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**Cited documents:**

US5507767  
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A delivery system (100), including a restraining member (102), maintains a collapsed implant (106) in its collapsed state for delivery through a small passageway to a desired site in a mammalian body. Once the implant is positioned at the desired site, the restraining member is released so that the stent may expand or be expanded to its expanded state. In a preferred embodiment, the restraining member comprises a sheet of material that surrounds at least a portion of the collapsed stent. Portions of the restraining member are releasably coupled to one another with a low profile thread-like member or suture.



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